FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY O GLOBO

PY171625 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Jan 84 p 26

[Interview given by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to O GLOBO special correspondent Florencia Varas in Buenos Aires -- date not given]

[Text] [Varas] What kind of message can President Raul Alfonsin offer to Latin America?

[Dante Caputo] The first thing that President Alfonsin can offer to Latin America is the demonstration that, despite the apparent despair concerning the possibility of a peaceful transition to democracy, Argentina has emerged as a democratic regime after a long night of repression, and it did so peacefully. This fact will undoubtedly serve as a great demonstration to the other Latin American countries.

[Varas] How will this new democratic Argentina make itself felt in concrete terms?

[Dante Caputo] In the first month in office, we have already made important decisions. Regarding armaments, for instance, all arms sales to Central American have been suspended so we can be consistent with our desire for a negotiated solution to the conflicts in that area. We know that the military government exported arms to that region. This seemed a hypocritical inconsistency to us. On the one hand, we raised peaceful banners, and on the other we sent arms to the region that we said we wanted to pacify.

[Varas] What about the purchase of arms?

[Dante Caputo] We made a statement on that at the time that the Kennedy amendment ban was lifted. We said that we understood it as a goodwill gesture on the part of the United States, but that the purchase of arms was not one of the Argentine Government's priorities. We are emphasizing two points: drastic reduction of public expenditures and promotion of a social policy. So the purchase of arms is not a priority for the constitutional government.

[Varas] But won't the fact that the arms sale embargo on Chile was not lifted create an imbalance between Chile and Argentina?

[Dante Caputo] We have no plans to increase arms purchases. Arms will be kept at a level adequate for national defense. The peace treaty between Argentina and Chile is receiving the finishing touches. There are small differences due to cultural variations which are intensified because of political differences and the divergent interests of the two governments. But my impression is that these differences can be smoothed out completely, and the road to peace that we have begun to travel is concrete proof of that.

[Varas] What will Argentina's relations with the major powers be?

[Dante Caputo] We always wanted to maintain our country's independent capacity. But this has only been a rhetorical point because no one takes the care of find out what it means to assert our country's independent decisionmaking capacity, particularly in instances when these countries are turned into a stage for confrontation between the major powers.

We want Argentina to stay away from the East-West confrontation, which is never a struggle carried out directly between the United States and the Soviet Union, but one always stated in the territories of third countries.

Whenever this happens, the capacity for independent decision making of the countries in which the confrontation takes place is considerably reduced.

In Argentina we have experienced terrorism and state-terrorism, two phenomena which are not fully explained by national causes, because they are also linked to conflicts outside the country. The Central American problem is at this time an example of just how far away that confrontation should be kept. Our relations with the major powers will be as mature as possible. We uphold Western values, but this does not mean that we should adopt the outlook of any given Western country.

In my opinion, relations with the West rest on three legs: One is a relationship with Latin America that is preferential for us; the other leg is our relation with the United States; and the third one is our relation with West Europe.

[Varas] What would happen if Argentina does not reach an agreement with Great Britain over the Malvinas?

[Dante Caputo] We have already made it clear that we will employ all our diplomatic capacity in order to resolve the conflict.

[Varas] But what if that is not enough? What if Great Britain refuses to negotiate? Do you believe in the possibility of Argentina's becoming involved in an armed conflict again?

[Dante Caputo] Argentina will not use arms, except for deterrent and defensive purposes. This means that we will not take the initiative in using arms in order to recover that territory. We will use all our diplomatic capacity, and only our diplomatic capacity. Obviously, if our territory is attacked, we will use our deterrent and defensive forces.

[Varas] Argentina now has the capability to produce enriched uranium and, consequently, the atomic bomb. Would your country accept international safeguards in this area?

[Dante Caputo] The capacity for manufacturing nuclear devices is not simply the result of the capacity to enrich uranium through the gaseous diffusion process. Reprocessing methods existed before, older methods which gave the country the capacity to manufacture explosive devices. We made the position of the Argentine Government clear to everyone: We emphatically announced that our use will be essentially peaceful. As for your question on international safeguards, the President is studying the possibility of ratifying the Tlaltelolco Treaty, the treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons in Latin America.

[Varas] What attitude will the Argentine Government adopt regarding the foreign debt? Is it thinking of creating a "debtors" club, as some countries have been considering?

[Dante Caputo] We believe that the origin of the foreign debt is different in each country. There are countries with heavy foreign debts. However, some have a deficit-prone structural situation, and others, like Argentina, a surplus-prone structural situation. So countries cannot be considered equal in this regard. We think that each country has to solve the problem, taking into account the economic reality of its foreign trade sector. We do not propose to have a common front of debtors. We believe that the foreign debt must be paid, without, however, restricting the development of Argentina. Our policy is very clear in this regard: We will pay the debt, but under adequate technical provisions that do not amount to a recessionary prescription. A foreign debt the size of Argentina's $43 billion represents two-thirds of its gross national product, and is a political liability for the country.

[Varas] What about Argentina's relations with the United Nations, the OAS, Nicaragua, Cuba...?

[Dante Caputo] We want to keep our territory free of foreign interference, and in the area of foreign policy we will do anything consistent with our democratic principles. On the OAS, we do have some criticisms, but we are not thinking of walking out. This is an important organization, but one which has become less effective as the years have passed. Regarding the United Nations, we will maintain our positions which are inspired by democratic principles.

Nicaragua is living through a very special situation in Central America. We cannot attempt any interference in its internal affairs, because if we condemn someone else's interference, we cannot interfere ourselves. We will try to assist as much as possible in the democratization of the Central American countries, and we will try to make our modest contribution to finding a negotiated solution to the region's conflict.

Next week we will send a mission to the Contadora Group countries. This will be a first information-gathering mission. Depending on the contacts that we can make in Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia, and Panama, there will be a second mission which I may head myself.

We maintain relations with Cuba as countries with different political systems which, nevertheless, can maintain commercial and economic contacts.

REACTIONS TO ATTACK ON APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE

Government Expresses 'Dismay'

PY170215 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (NA) -- Today the Argentine Government expressed its "dismay' to Apostolic Nuncio Ubaldo Calabresi for the attack against the papal diplomatic representation, and it placed itself at the disposal of the papal representative "for any necessary proceedings." The government's regrets were officially expressed at noon today by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, who reported that he had made a telephone call to the apostolic nuncio to express "the government's dismay and mine" for the attack.

A group of approximately five persons threw a "Molotov cocktail" against the nunciature's gate during pre-dawn hours yesterday. In a declaration issued today, Caputo stated that "this attack was carried out by small minority groups." It added that the government is at the disposal of the nuncio "for any necessary proceedings."

Nuncio States 'Concern'

PY170220 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1640 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (DYN) -- The apostolic nuncio, Monsignor Ubaldo Calabresi, today expressed "his concern" over the attack against the nunciature, "not because of the damage, which was very slight, but because it is an act of violence." Calabresi was resting in the interior of the building last night when a group of unidentified persons riding in a green Ford Taunus threw an explosive against the Vatican diplomatic mission. The explosion caused a small fire that was quickly put out by the mission's housekeeper.

The nuncio diminished the importance of the attack by saying that it was a "small attack," but he warned that the fact that it may "have been carried out by a group of young people" is something worthy of attention. He noted that "the first reports we have point out that the explosive was thrown from a car that was occupied by several young people." He expressed his hope that "young people do not take up violence again."

He added: "I have always had a high opinion of Argentine youth and I still do. This is why I am concerned when small groups of youth are involved in such incidents." In this regard he added that "I am not disappointed by this small incident, but it is an incident, a parenthesis which I do not like." He noted that no one claimed credit for the attack, but that an anonymous telephone call told the nunciature's housekeeper that "rat, the ranch is on fire."

GOVERNORS DISCUSS FEDERALISM WITH TROCCOLI

PY172320 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] Corrientes (DYN-NA) -- Governors from northeastern provinces yesterday met with Minister of Interior Antonio Troccoli to analyze the region's most urgent needs and request a more genuinely federal system. The Peronist governors of Santa Fe, Chaco and Formosa and the Radical Governors of Misiones and Entre Rios were all present at the invitation of Corrientes Governor Jose Antonio Romero Feris, the originator of the meeting.

Troccoli said the current tax system will be modified in order to grant the provinces greater independence from the Federal Government and that regional development programmes will help to reflate the floodstricken provinces' damaged economies. Troccoli urged the provincial leaders to "make a big effort to leave aside rivalries" and assured them that true federalism would be established. When queried by the press later that day on subversion, Troccoli replied that the government would "repress" any subversive actions because the country will not remain "defenceless".

Meanwhile Romero Feris demanded that the national government establish a new system of joint taxes and that the provinces be given the same treatment as public enterprises. He also said his province urgently needed loans for harvesting. "We have not come here to look for federalism but to practice it," said Santa Fe's Jose Maria Vernet, who pressed for major provincial participation in national affairs. He added that to overcome dependence on Buenos Aires the northeastern provinces needed to unite.

Although Entre Rios Governor Sergio Montiel claimed his province shows evident signs of recovery, he added that he is willing to "fight" for a 50 percent share of local revenues. For his part, Ricardo Barrios Arrechea of Misiones pushed for a 100 percent share. Chaco's Florencio Tenev, who maintained that his province is in urgent need of national financial aid, said that the government is not responding to its pleas and warned that if no concrete measures are taken soon, he will "regrettably" be forced to make public statements which in no way will "agree" with the government opinion.

FORMER JUNTA MEMBERS MEET TO PLAN DEFENSE

PY171330 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1934 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (NA) -- According to a press report released today, the six members of the first two military juntas repotedly met a few days ago to set up a common strategy for their defense before the Armed Forces Supreme Council, which is going to try them for abuses committed during the antisubversive struggle.

According to the report, published by the newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO, a second meeting was held in which the nine members of the first three military juntas were to participate, but on this occasion General Roberto Viola refused to attend, if Leopoldo Galtieri, Jorge Anaya, and Basilio Lami Dozo were going to be there.

The two meetings were reportedly held at the Buenos Aires naval base, where Admiral Emilio Massera, retired, is being held in preventive detention in relation to the investigation of businessman Fernando Branca's disappearance.

The first meeting, reportedly held last week, was attended by Generals Jorge Videla and Roberto Viola; Admirals Emilio Massera, Jorge Anaya, and Armando Lambruschini; and Brigadier Generals Orlando Agosti and Ruben Graffigna.

The report, signed by journalist Luis Calvo Anglada and published today in AMBITO FINANCIERO, says that the meeting -- similar to the meeting held by the civilian lawyers who advise the military men -- concerned the defense which the former junta members are going to present before the Armed Forces Supreme Council.

INVESTIGATIONS OF DISAPPEARANCES CONTINUE

PY172310 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Jan 84 p 7

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA) -- Former President Reynaldo Bignone, who is now under arrest at Campo de Mayo army base, testified for two hours yesterday at the chambers of Judge Carlos Oliveri and, although no official information has been divulged concerning the proceedings, observers say he was confronted with two former soldiers who were attached to the Military College at the time Bignone was head of the institution. The former president is charged with being involved in the disappearance of two conscripts and Communist activists named Luis Garcia and Luis Steinberg in 1976.

Former Justice Minister Lucas Lennon, who is defending Bignone, was also reportedly present when the two former soldiers were confronted with the ex-president. Following the appearance of Bignone, Judge Oliveri said there would be no further moves in the case for the next 24 hours. The soldiers who yesterday allegedly confronted Bignone were kidnapped shortly after the military take-over but subsequently released. They reportedly said that Bignone apologized for their abduction and added they were "victims of a mistake."

Former First Army Corps Commander Guillermo Suarez Mason has been summoned to appear today before San Martin Federal Judge Luis Cordoba in connection with the disappearance of scientist Alfredo Giorgi in November 1978 at the National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI). He was said to have been kidnapped by Army security personnel. Several witnesses claim to have seen the missing man while held in the clandestine El Olimpo prison camp run by the First Army Corps. Suarez Mason will reportedly be arrested if he appears before Judge Cordoba today and Marcelo Parilli, the Giorgi family's lawyer, has called for his preventive arrest to ensure that he testifies.

Retired General Omar Riveros, another former head of the Military College, also testified before Judge Cordoba yesterday in connection with the death of 14-year-old Floreal Avelaneda, a member of the Communist Youth organization. He and his mother were kidnapped by security forces on April 15, 1976.

The mother was subsequently released and the boy's body was found floating off the coast of Uruguay. Mrs Avellaneda said the military had been seeking her husband, who was a factory shop steward. She added that 27 out of 28 union delegates disappeared at the time. Riveros arrived at the court building with 17 bodyguards who travelled in three automobiles. They had to run the gauntlet of a group of communist sympathizers who chanted anti-military slogans.

SUAREZ MASON'S ARREST ORDERED IN GIORGI CASE

PY172005 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0449 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (TELAM) -- Federal Judge Luis Angel Cordoba today ordered the arrest of General Carlos Guillermo Suarez Mason, retired, former commander of the I Army Corps, because he failed to appear today before the first federal judge of the San Martin District in Buenos Aires to testify in the investigation of the disappearance of Alfredo Giorgi, technician of the National Institution of Industrial Technology [INTI]. The plaintiff's attorney, Marcelo Parrilli, made the announcement, stating that Suarez Mason is considered a fugitive from justice.

SERIOUS INCIDENTS FOLLOW MENENDEZ APPEARANCE

PY180130 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0025 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (NA) -- Serious incidents, resulting in eight injured and seven detainees, occurred this afternoon when groups of people stoned the car in which General Luciano Benjamin Menendez left the offices of the Constitutional Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. In the commission, General Benjamin Menendez had ratified his statement classifying as "subversives" people who reported abuses in the fight against subversion. However, the former commander of the III Army Corps said that he did not intend to attack the president of the nation or Congress with his statement.

The police adopted strict measures to prevent the military chief from being attacked when he left the offices of the commission. However, police could not prevent groups of demonstrators from insulting Benjamin Menendez and shouting "assassin" at him. Federal police sources reported tonight that seven people were arrested during the incidents, including two minors who have been put at the disposal of Federal Judge Jose Nicasio Dibur.

The following people were injured during the incidents: Radio America journalist Pedro Scalano, who was hit in the head; reporter Ricardo Guerrero; congressional security officers Santiago Filpigh and Jose Luis Tisvergh, and four Federal Police officers. Police sources reported that benzine was thrown in the eyes of Federal Police Officer Guillermo Jorge Basso.

GOVERNMENT 'PARALYZED' BY PUBLIC SERVANTS STRIKE

PY172020 Paris AFP in Spanish 1428 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 17 Jan (AFP) -- It has been disclosed here that the Bolivian public administration sector was paralyzed today by a 24-hour public servants strike.

The measure was in protest of the government's refusal to grant the sector a transportation bonus and other economic benefits which would compensate for the increasing cost of living.

The influential Bolivian Labor Confederation, for its part, could decree work stoppages and strikes within the next few days if the democratic regime headed by Hernan Siles Zuazo fails to approve the impiementation of the minimum necessary salary with an escalator clause which the workers are demanding.

ARCE GOMEZ REPORTEDLY HEADING ARMED GROUP

PY131823 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Relay by Oruro correspondent]

[Excerpt] Political commentators are seriously wondering about the efficiency of the current government, when considering rumors being spread that Colonel Luis Arce Gomez is allegedly in the country heading a group equipped with modern arms and probably planning to destabilize the democratic process. What everyone wonders is whether this government, which is the result of the people's and workers' struggle, is defending their interests. Intense drug trafficking, crimes, immorality in public administration offices, speculation, usury, and hoarding of staples is continuing. Therefore, it is necessary for the government to be more responsible and take urgent measures.

Charged With Murders

PY171935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1547 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 15 Jan (EFE) -- Today the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) demanded that Bolivian justice punish the people responsible for the murder of eight MIR members in January 1981. The MIR members were killed on a downtown La Paz street, and the MIR is now accusing former President Luis Garcia Meza (1980-81) and his former Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez of being responsible for those deaths. Both are living in exile in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The MIR believes that the two former officials instigated the multiple murder; therefore, it has filed suit in court against them.

Seen in Border Area

PY171335 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0125 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 16 Jan (EFE) -- Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Olata today said that former Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez has secretly entered the country.

Alvarez Plata added that Arce Gomez, accompanied by several armed individuals, has been seen by state security organizations near the Argentine border.

FIGUEIREDO WANTS EARLY MEETING WITH ALFONSIN

PY170230 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The Brazilian and Argentine presidents could meet soon. At least this is President Figueiredo's desire, which was conveyed to Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro in Quito last week.

SARAIVA POSTPONES SURINAME VISIT INDEFINITELY

PY162323 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro will not make his visit to Suriname, which had been slated for 26-27 January. The trip has been postponed indefinitely according to Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas.

Saraiva Guerreiro's trip was postponed due to the changes in the Surinamese Government resulting in the departure of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Errol Alibux. Because a new Surinamese Government has not yet been installed, Saraiva Guerreiro's visit will not be possible for now.

FRANCE VETOES EQUIPMENT SALE FOR NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY171620 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1906 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 16 Jan (TELAM) -- The Brazilian Government's determination to give priority to the industrial development of the nuclear fuel production cycle so that it can compete with Argentina in that field has caused the French Government to veto the sale of Alsthom turbines to Brazil.

The French decision was published today by the local daily O GLOBO in its Economic Panorama feature [item has not been observed in O GLOBO], and it adds that the Paris government used to support the Brazilian nuclear program and that it had even granted loans through local banks to purchase equipment.

Moreover, it indicates that up to 1 year ago the Brazilian nuclear program was giving priority to the construction of plants for energy production. The technology of nuclear fuel production was not the main objective at that time, as it is now, due to the competition with Argentina.

The article concludes by saying that Brazil has the alternative of resorting to the Germans, who manufacture turbines similar to the French ones and who can provide financing for Brasilia's nuclear program, something that they have been doing anyway.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON BORDER CLASH WITH ECUADOR

Joint Command Communique

PY171423 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Jan 84

["Text" of communique issued by the Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command on 16 January]

[Text] 1. Yesterday, 15 January, there was a border clash, when a guard post, located on the Corrientes River in a well-demarcated area of the border, was attacked by an Ecuadoran Army patrol.

2. The attack, which took place in the predawn hours, was energetically repelled by our forces.

3. Attempts are being made to establish proper contacts in order to determine the facts and restore a normal situation in the area.

[Signed] Lima, 16 January 1984, Public Relations Office of the Armed Forces Joint Command

War Minister Comments

PY171510 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] War Minister General Oscar Brush has confirmed the clash with Ecuador. He said that our country is capable of keeping the situation in the border area under control.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, there are reports that there has been a clash in the northern zone in which 16 Ecuadoran soldiers were killed. Is this true?

[Brush] Yes, there was a border clash on the night of 15 January, but the number of casualties among the forces that attacked the Peruvian post is unknown. We do know that there are no casualties among our forces.

[Reporter] This happens regularly when the anniversary of the signing of the protocol draws near. My question is: Peru has the law on its side with the protocol, but does Peru have the weapons necessary to enforce the law and the protocol?

[Brush] Well, we are a God-fearing people and can forgive. These are matters of national defense. But you should not worry about it, because everything is well under control. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Comments

PY180018 Paris AFP in Spanish 2358 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 17 Jan (AFP) -- This afternoon Peruvian Foreign Minister Fernando Schwalb announced that a note of protest will be submitted to Jose Ayala, Ecuadoran ambassador in Lima, regarding the incident last Sunday on the border between the two countries.

He also disclosed that the Peruvian Foreign Ministry is drawing up an official communique with information on the attack on one Peruvian military post by an Ecuadoran patrol near the Corrientes River in the Amazon jungle.

At the end of a meeting with President Fernando Belaunde at Government Palace, Foreign Minister Schwalb stated that the president was briefed on the incident on the northern border. The meeting lasted for over 90 minutes.

Schwalb also stated that the great international publicity given the border incident favors the Ecuadoran diplomatic strategy, which seeks to give the impression that a tense atmosphere exists between Peru and Ecuador which threatens peace. This situation is caused by a treaty which the Ecuadoreans deem unjust.

The minister pointed out that the Peruvian stance is very discreet. Schwalb ended by stating that we do not want to magnify the border incidents, since excess publicity would serve interests contrary to those of our country.

Foreign Ministry Communique

PY180236 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0145 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] We will now read an official communique issued by the Foreign Relations Ministry:

Regarding the incident that took place in the sector of the Peruvian patrol post and that was disclosed through the official communique issued yesterday by the Armed Forces Joint Command, the foreign relations under secretary today summoned the ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador to hand him a note of protest over the regrettable events described in the communique, which represent a violation of national territory.

Lima, 17 January 1984

[Signed] (Eduardo Salcedo Pena Arrieta), foreign relations press secretary

DECLINE REPORTED IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING

PY171930 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1725 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 14 Jan (EFE) -- The price of 1 kg of cocaine base, which was $1,000 in the Peruvian Amazon jungle in September 1983, has declined sharply to $150 or $200 due to excessive illegal production. Greed has turned the once profitable activity into a faltering business.

This is at least the conclusion of the last issue of the monthly PERU ECONOMICO, which also notes that the price decline has had devastating effects.

As a matter of fact, in the Huallaga River Valley, the main drug trafficking area, house building has come to a halt and electric appliance stores no longer have customers.

According to the monthly, Bolivian competitors have undermined Peru's lead in the cocaine "industry."

Four years ago, illegal cocaine production in Peru accounted for 80 percent of world production. Now the figure is less than 50 percent.

At the same time, the monthly notes, the Peruvian jungle has turned into a kind of Wild West for coca traffickers, harassed by police, rival gangs, and thieves who seize the drug to sell it themselves.

PERU ECONOMICO reports that farmers began gowing coca, which yields excellent though risky earnings, because coffee, tea, soybean, bean, pineapple, tobacco, and other crops were not selling as well as expected.

The difficulties encountered in the transportation and marketing of these products, which rotted unsold in storage facilities, caused considerable damage and forced the peasants into drug trafficking, which has been promoted particularly by Colombian traffickers.

The increased efficiency of police antidrug operations has also been a severe blow for cocaine trafficking. The United States has invested millions of dollars in Peru to make police operations effective. The U.S. money is being used to promote the growing of cacao, rice, and palm trees in traditionally drug trafficking areas.

PERU ECONOMICO explains that even though no other single product is as profitable as coca, a group of other products can be, thus giving peasants a chance of making money without engaging in illegal activities.

Though not yet defeated, cocaine trafficking seems to be on the road to decline, to the benefit of mankind.

SHINING PATH TO CONTINUE ARMED STRUGGLE

PY141845 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0254 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 13 Jan (EFE) -- A printed communique attributed to "Shining Path" that was issued today in Ayacucho states that the armed struggle will continue with greater force.

The communique noted that the municipal elections held on 13 November in Peru "have resulted in a defeat for the government and for the servile opposition, particullary the united left."

"The United Left" is a political group encompassing several Marxist trend parties that have repeatedly condemned the violent and bloody methods of Shining Path through declarations issued by United Left President Alfonso Barrantes, the mayor of Lima.

The communique added that Ayacucho Mayor Leonor Zamora, a member of the "National Integration Party" (PADIN), "does not represent the people of Ayacucho at all."

It is believed that in this paragraph Shining Path is rejecting the appeal for dialogue that Leonor Zamora issued to terrorist organizations during the ceremony in which she assumed her duties as Ayacucho mayor on 2 January.

Since its beginning in 1983, the Maoist group has carried out a series of attacks in several Peruvian cities. These attacks consisted, among other things, of blowing up several power pylons which left Lima and other cities dark on New Year's Eve, and yesterday killing four persons, relatives of a lieutenant governor.

REPORTAGE ON PIT-CALLED 18 JAN GENERAL STRIKE

Labor Minister Threatens Regulations

PY170245 Montevideo Domestic Service in Spanish 0001 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Address to the nation by Labor Minister Nestor Bolentini -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage indistinct] The reason for our maintaining that there is a marked relation between the present PIT [Interunion Workers Plenum] and the dissolved CNT [National Convention of Workers] is based on a publication from Stockholm, I repeat, Stockholm, issued on 24 November 1983 named (?MAYORIA), issue No 20, which predicted in November what is currently taking place in Uruguay. This means that the general strike slated for 18 January has been planned, organized, and decided abroad. (?MAYORIA) published the following: Fourth rally. Legally recognized parties and the Broad Front united with worker and student organizations. Scorching November. Note the use of similar terminology. When subversion prevailed in Uruguay, the expression hot summer was used. The (?MAYORIA) publication talked about a scorching November. The publication also says that all the political parties organized the Sunday, 27 November rally in complete agreement with the Broad Front.

CNT resident Jose (Delia) urged all workers [word indistinct] to attend the rally and the Federation of Students called on youth, students, and social and political organizations to support the rally. The PIT decided to support the action and it postponed the 30 [November] protest.

The (?MAYORIA) publication, which carries profiles of Fidel Castro and of Mr Seregni, also says: The obelisk will be crowded on 27 November, another November and an even more scorching one.

I understand, respect, and believe [words indistinct] of labor unions in the defense of the rights of workers. But labor unions can by no means, by no means, turn into vehicles for ideological infiltration, let alone attempt to place their interests above national interests. No sectarian interest, whether it be of the workers, businessmen, or of any other group, is above national interests. The purpose of our message is to point out the aspects we believe you should reflect on.

If you study the 14 points and the 11 points [as heard] of the PIT's call for a general strike, you will notice that most of these points do not have a labor content, but rather an ideological and political content, and that they seek political actions aimed at turning the PIT into a forum for the development of ideologies by groups that are contrary to our traditions and our system. This clearly shows that attempts are being made to return to the past and to infiltrate union organizations in order to turn them into political resistance groups.

The best way to achieve constructive solutions is: first, to resort to dialogue between the parties involved; second, to resort to arbitration; and only if this fails, only if ill-will has blocked finding a solution, only then should workers resort to measures of force. We have noted that these measures of force are similar to wars, because just as nations do not go to war over a dispute before resorting to peaceful means to resolve their conflicts, there are also peaceful means that the labor sector may resort to in order to solve their conflicts. What is more, these measures to resolve labor problems are included in our Constitution, since in addition to establishing the right to strike, the Constitution also notes that conciliation and arbitration are steps to resolve labor problems in a peaceful manner.

In a statement we made in one of the several daily meetings we hold, we evaluated this problem throughout the history of the country. We noted that these measures of force may affect public order. What is more, this has happened in our country under completely normal political situations, and not during exceptional periods, that is, under completely normal political situations [words indistinct] promoted by labor organizations that do not act in keeping with national interests, also caused very difficult situations. These situations were always repelled in one manner: through the implementation of security measures. Decree No 567 was issued in 1965, and Decree No (?684) was issued in October 1967. These security measures were adopted by politicians, members of the traditional political parties, who were elected to government offices.

This shows that this is a problem that repeats itself and that because of the use of violence, and because of the need to keep public order and of the need for public services, it is necessary to implement exceptional regulations such as exceptional security measures, which always restrict individual rights. This is why today and yesterday we have urged people to reason so as not to cause disorders by complying with this strike.

We are already confronting real difficulties that we are trying to overcome, and right now we have positive signs that we are achieving this recovery. Right now there is an increase of jobs; right now there is a decrease in unemployment; right now we are trying to solve the difficult situation that retirees are confronting. These measures of force are unfavorable. They lead to violence. They provoke uneasiness. They make more difficult the indispensable dialogue with workers. And they block the achievement of the objectives that have been established and which are essential for the nation.

Because this strike threatens the social peace and order that must reign in the country, because it has no basis, because it has no reason for being, we request all Uruguayans to reason, to act calmly, and to cooperate with us in resolving this situation and maintaining our freedoms in [word indistinct] peaceful and under a completely normal situation. We also remind workers, who will be the ones to decide whether to go to work or to strike, that the country needs their efforts to recover and that the well-being of all Uruguayans, particularly that of workers, depends on production and justice, which we want all of them to enjoy and which we have promised to all of them on the part of the Labor Ministry.

Therefore, I tell all fellow Uruguayans that it is not through violent means but through reason, through solidarity that we shall achieve solutions.

Yes, workers can defend their [word indistinct] and union rights, but without losing their national essence or the essence of democracy.

Uruguayan labor unions can and should be independent so that they may have the [word indistinct] and moral authority that we want for them and for all our institutions.

Foreign interference in our country is threatening our sovereignty and our independence. No one, but Uruguayans themselves, can be the protagonists of those actions that will allow us to achieve a better well-being and to overcome the present difficulties.

Colorado Leader Opposes Timing

PY162100 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Colorado Party leader Enrique Tarigo has told El Espectador that the parties will also discuss the general strike slated for next Wednesday.

[Begin Tarigo recording] Look, in my personal opinion, the causes noted in calling this strike, which are naturally economic causes, are absolutely legitimate. No one can be unaware of the extremely difficult situation the entire nation has been experiencing, especially wage earners, that is, employees, workers, retired people, and so forth. But I do have doubts about the timeliness, the possible effectiveness of this general strike. I believe the country is now at a very special juncture, not only economically, but primarily politically, and I truly fear that this general strike may be considered an act of defiance which might ultimately provoke even tighter restrictions and repressive actions than those the nation has already been enduring all these years. I really do not believe this is the right time for this type of action considering the special circumstances we are going through.

Looking in perspective and considering not only today's difficulties but also the ones we have been experiencing over the past 10 years, I believe that what the country needs now is to put an end to this de facto government, to violations and restrictions affecting both individual freedoms and the right to work and to earn a just, equitable salary. Then, looking from this angle, this special coercive measure, the general strike, may not be the right measure for this special time. [end recording]

Situation Very Tense

PY180138 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1904 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 17 Jan (TELAM) -- In the midst of a very tense social atmosphere, thousands of Uruguayan workers are preparing to start a 24-hour general strike at midnight tonight. The strike, which has been summoned by the Interunion Workers Plenum [PIT], could continue indefinitely should the government carry out an active repression.

In addition to this possibility is the warning made by Labor Minister Colonel Nestor Bolentini, retired, who after strongly criticizing the workers' decision said that if the workers persist with their attitude, exceptional measures restricting their rights will be implemented.

This harsh official warning, naturally, was categorically rejected by the PIT, and on a grossroots level was repudiated by numerous private organizations. The leaders of the workers confederation, which still has not been officially recognized but acts as if it has been, immediately reacted, asserting that if there are any arrests or other reprisals that may diminish the workers'desire to exercise their legitimate right to strike, the strike will continue indefinitely until the causes that may prompt this undesired, continued measure of force disappear.

Health Workers' Support

PY180027 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Jan (EFE) -- The workers of the health sector today staged a 2-hour strike in Uruguay and demonstrated against the military regime in the streets and avenues surrounding hospitals and health centers. The protest staged by the health workers was organized by the confederation that unites them and was held to support the general strike scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, by the main workers confederation in Uruguay.

Despite the plea of the union leaders who have called the strike, openly defying the "de facto" government, spontaneous demonstrations are still being held in Montevideo. However, no incidents have been reported since the regime has promised not to repress the unions as long as public peace is not disrupted.

The halt of activities tomorrow, Wednesday, will be almost total, with the exception of public services because state employees do not have unions because the government has not allowed it. As a consequence, public servants do not plan to observe the strike.

Colorado Party Statement

PY180145 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The Colorado and the Blanco Parties tonight voiced their stand on the general strike to be staged tomorrow. The Colorado Party's Executive Board, after holding a special meeting, has issued the following statement:

1. The step taken by the Interunion Workers Plenum (PIT) is completely legitimate. The right to strike is provided for under Article 57 of the Constitution.

2. Although the general strike is untimely from a political standpoint under the current circumstances, the Colorado Party approves, in a broad sense, the workers' claims on salary increases and unionization that are contained in the workers' demands. These claims are only the response to the painful economic policies that have been implemented in recent years. These policies have obviously failed.

7. The democratic solution that the country is seeking will not be facilitated but, on the contrary, it will be hampered or even frustrated by the reiteration of these kinds of strikes, which are, curiously enough, being encouraged or favored by the government. They could lead to the adoption of far more repressive measures than the existing ones and could hinder the effectiveness of a political schedule which the government has time and again pledged and committed itself to, a schedule with which the country will not accept noncompliance.

Strike Begins on Schedule

PY181055 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0334 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Jan (EFE) -- The first general strike in more than 10 years of military rule began at midnight tonight in Uruguay in answer to a call by the country's main workers group, the Interunion Workers Plenum (PIT). The strike began just before 0000 local time (0300 GMT Wednesday).

Bars and restaurants closed their doors some hours before the deadline in order to let their personnel return home because of the practically total stoppage of public transportation.

President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez' government tonight announced that measures have been taken to guarantee that services are provided by the state. State employees have not joined the strike. A strong deployment of the paramilitary police could be observed in Montevideo, where one-half of Uruguay's population (2.5 million) resides, but so far there have been no incidents.

DIAZ HERRERA ON ROLE OF DEFENSE FORCES

PA132035 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Speech by Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, chief of staff of the Panamanian Defense Forces, at the opening of a livstock fair in Tanara on 12 January -- recorded]

[Text] It has been suggested that we suspend our close relationship with the peasants, so as not to violate the Constitution. I don't agree. I don't believe that the Constitution forbids the offer of friendship to the country's productive sector, either from members of the armed forces or from the armed forces as an institution. [applause] We know that some problems should be handled by the public sector, and within this sector by the government administration, which in this case would mainly be the Agricultural and Livestock Ministry [as heard].

Naturally, other problems affecting different areas, such as health, social security, water, housing, or marketing, would be handled by the appropriate government organizations. However, we will try to paln for the year 2000 and beyond with the young people who will replace us, the Panamanian youths who will assume positions then. We cannot afford not to listen either to Felipe Vargas or his son. [applause]

We will remain within a constitutional and legal framework, but the institution's security is directly related to the peace mentioned by Rodrigo Rodriguez, [not further identified] and that peace is mainly linked to food. If the people are hungry, it can affect our barracks; therefore, we have to make every effort to avoid hunger. This will not take us outside the Constitution or the law, although some have expressed concern about this. We know why they are concerned. They wish us to remain in our barracks and to ignore the country's problems, because they think that our recognition of the problems will deprive them of votes. We are not interested in getting votes, but rather in obtaining peace and security for all Panamanian citizens.

We have not put forth any military candidate, nor have we any such plan. Let politicians seek the votes and help to solve the nation's problems. However, for security reasons, we will remain close to all sectors of the people, especially the productive sector, the one that feeds the people, because this problem is our responsibility. We must make sure that most Panamanians -- and in the future all Panamians, particularly youths and children -- have the food they need every day.

PDC ANNOUNCES DIRECTORATE, ECONOMIC COMMISSION

PA140636 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] announced at a press conference this morning tnat Jose Molino and Raul Figueroa have veen elected president and secretary general of its National Directorate. The announcement was made in preparation for the elections scheduled for May. Doctor Ricardo Arias Calderon, a prominent PDC member, made the announcement. He also announced the formation of an economic commission that will advise PDC leaders during the election campaign.

[Begin Arias Calderon recording] This country requires a great political change that at the same time will provide a new orientation, a new economic strategy; and through the appointments that directorate member Federico Humbert made today, we are informing the country of what we consider to be our problems and the people we have at our disposal to face them. Within the next few days we will announce the whole membership of this commission and its work plan. [end recording]

In another part of his speech, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon questioned the recent message from the National Defense Force, in which it invited the PDC leaders to an important meeting.

[Begin Arias Calderon recording] The PDC has in the past accepted and currently accepts talks with military authorities, when the objectives are to achieve the democratization of institutions, promote the professionalization of the military institutions and achieve honest elections. The PDC does not accept, has never accepted, and will never accept any meeting with military authorities whose objectives are partisan electoral objectives. Furthermore, we will not lend ourselves to the concealment of these meetings. It is because of this that on this occasion the PDC declines the invitation made by the chief of the General Staff and urges the General Staff and the military institution to adopt and maintain a strictly professional, constitutional, and democratic position. [end recording]

The political leader also pointed out that the PDC has postponed its presidential convention initially scheduled for 14 January in an effort to achieve the unification of the democratic opposition.

PAREDES ON CANDIDACY, ELECTORAL AMENDMENTS

PA171224 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Jan 84 p 1 A

[By Wilfi Jimenez]

[Excerpts] During the first public rally of the "Third Force" yesterday, General Ruben Dario Paredes said: "General Noriega, President de la Espriella: Get your hands out of politics." Paredes described the rally as part of the process of "walking toward the presidency to respond to those Panamanians who cannot find a solution to national problems through traditional parties."

The Popular Nationalist Party, PNP, candidate, who was continually applauded by the crowd, which he estimated at about 2,000 people, denounced "the amendments' predawn action," and described them as "caused by existing parliamentary corruption," warning President De la Espriella that he should veto the amendments "right at this moment."

Paredes later amplified his statement for LA PRENSA, adding that it had contained "healthy, firm, and very direct recommendations for reflection, because the armed forces and the government must gradually move away from political activities. It is difficult for the people to believe that the armed forces and the government did not know of the amendments in advance, despite the many communiques issued."

Paredes also said: "De la Espriella wants to be president again and is waging a campaign." He added that since De la Espriella is legally blocked from such a campaign, "he tried to open a breach" with the amendments, and that "it is childish and shows disrespect for the Panamanians' intelligence for him now to say that he did not know of those amendments. Please, that cannot be accepted."

Ardito Has Support From the Military

Asked whether he knew about the military's support for [World Bank President] Ardito Barletta's candidacy, Paredes confirmed the meeting in Tinajitas between the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] and the Panamanian Defense Force General Staff, and pointed out that "the very fact that the meeting took place says more than a thousand words and has been interpreted as an armed forces-supported candidacy, even though the PRD secretary general proposed such support and not a military man."

Paredes asserted that at present he does not have any relationship with the military high command, and that "my only relationship with them is limited to accidentally running into the rank and file."

Paredes also mentioned that 1 and 1/2 months ago Gen Noriega and Colonels Diaz Herrera and Justines met with him and tried to make him give up his candidacy. Paredes said that he would "take that decision at the right moment," and promised that the officers would be the first to learn of such a determination. He made good his word by telling them "48 hours prior to the meeting at the Casa del Marisco Restaurant in Panama City [reference to agreement signed by Apredes and PNP candidate Olimpo Saez on 22 December 1983] that I would go ahead with my candidacy."

Paredes said that there was no immediate reaction, but that later he experienced "a banning from the news media controlled by these officers, as well as family persecution." He reported that some of his relatives have been dismissed from their posts, while others "have been sent away on leave, as if with the intention that they should not return."

Paredes believes that Law 20 [creating the National Defense Forces] is a necessity because the armed forces need the security that the law gives them, but he also thinks that "the civilized thing would be to create a defense ministry at once. This would gain more acceptance because the military men would thus have a representative in the national cabinet. [quotation marks as published] In this manner, they "could not turn their backs on the nation's problems."

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PROTEST TREATY VIOLATIONS

PA151506 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 1-A

[By Alfonso Barria Blanco]

[Text] Shouting "Yankees out of Central America and viva Rolando Alberto Perez Palomino," university student members of the 9 January Group and of several university organizations protested before the U.S. Embassy in this capital yesterday, demanding a prompt response from the U.S. Government to the continued violations of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

The 10-minute demonstration, which involved some 30 people, was carried out in support of the heroic act staged on Tuesday by Rolando Alberto Perez Palomino, who doused himself with gasoline and burned himself in front of the U.S. Embassy. Following Perez Palomino's self-immolation, several civic and public organizations have come out in support of this young man, who offered his life in defense of the faithful fulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and of U.S. nonintervention in Central America. This demonstration, aside from the funeral services, was the greatest act of recognition of his feat to date.

The demonstrators, who were guarded by units from the Defense Forces, carried posters and banners alluding to the various demands levied by the Panamanian Government on the U.S. Government in response to violations of the canal treaties. The leftist groups departed, apparently seeking more support for their demonstration, but the citizens seemed to regard this as an isolated incident following Perez Palomino's immolation.

Treaty Problems Recalled

PA160035 Panama City YA in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 14

[Editorial: "Demagogic Lamentations"]

[Text] As we commemorate another anniversary of the heroic feat of 1964, Panama receives with consternation reports of multiple "treaty violations," which are nothing more than the implementation of the treaties to the letter, because those pacts negotiated by Panamanians legalized many situations that had been opposed by several generations that offered their lives in the struggle for the recovery of Panama's sovereignty.

Beginning in 1968, new "patriots" emerged who in the past had never shown an interest in or dedication to national affairs, and who, to the contrary, used their positions to repress student and popular protests, brandishing rifles and machine guns to stop those who were unconditionally serving the most sacred national interests. Bolstered by their power, they depicted themselves as true leaders, until their actions culminated in the ill-fated treaties that today offend our dignity and are repudiated by the generations that will have to renew the struggle to amend the documents.

One must add that many of those who today appear to oppose the so-called violations were radical defenders of the pacts to the extent that they labeled "anti-patriots" all those who had the vision and the courage to point out the treaties' pitfalls and the danger that the treaties would represent to the Panamanian people. All citizens, including the young, surely still recall the battle against the approval of the treaties, which were imposed by demagogues because of an idolatry blinded by political sentiments, inspired by group interests, and protected by a dictatorial system of government.

The protesters then felt the weight of their limitations. While treaty supporters had all kinds of support resources, treaty opponents were limited to posters [cuadros] and brief radio and television programs, thus preventing both sectors from having an equal voice in a matter of such national importance. The story is a recent one, and an offended nation finds that the same actors are still on the stage: hence, they will have to account for their thoughtless actions.

The Panamanian people have not really reaped the benefits that were expected from the treaties. Unemployment has risen, with a high number of unemployed in the canal area; installations have been monopolized by a single department; there has been a reduction in income from canal traffic; and there is a lack of a captive dollar market. Other negative elements also contribute to the discouraging results of the misdirected negotiations.

SIX BASQUE ETA MEMBERS AWAITING TRANSFER

PA142040 Paris AFP in Spanish 1859 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Panama City, 12 Jan (AFP) -- Six members of the Basque separatist Fatherland and Freedom Organization (ETA), who were detained last Tuesday in France and later expelled to this country, are under guard in a residence in Panama, Carlos Ozores, Panamanian government and justice minister, confirmed here today.

The six are being kept secretly -- almost certainly on a Pacific island, according to well-informed sources -- while waiting to be sent to Venezuela or Nicaragua, Ozores noted.

The ETA militants -- Jesus Abrisketa Corta, 34; Jose Luis Angola Larracaga, 47; Jose Maria Larrtxea Goci, 40; Jose Miguel Arrugaeta San Emeterio, 25; Carlos Ibarguren Aguirre, 45; and Jose Antonio Mugica, 39 -- were sent yesterday to Point a Pitre, Guadalupe, but were expelled from there to Panama the same day.

BALBOA SHIPYARDS WORKERS BLOCK PCC REPAIRS

PA132024 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Yesterday afternoon the conflict between the Balboa Shipyards and its workers took a turn for the worse when an attempt at negotiations fell through.

According to the workers, they have decided not to allow the Panama Canal Commission to enter the facility and continue repair on two damaged locks. A National Port Authority source told Televisora Nacional, however, that the port authority guarantees that the work being done by the Panama Canal Commission at the facilities where the Balboa Shipyards operate will continue. The Labor Ministry, which is examining the problem, has remained silent on the workers' request for negotiations.

This afternoon members of the Single National Union of Construction and Related Workers, SUNTRACS, picketed in front of the Labor Ministry in support of the Balboa Shipyards workers. It was announced that SUNTRACS would call for a national strike if an agreement is not reached next week.

BRIEFS

DENI STRUCTURAL CHANGES -- The National Department of Investigation (DENI), has announced structural changes made yesterday by the order of the National Defense Forces Command. Four directorships have been created, forming the top DENI leadership presided over by the chief of the National Defense Forces and the director of the institution. These are: the administrative directorship headed by Inspector Alfredo Hinkson; the director of schools, headed by Inspector Leslie Loaiza; the directorship of operations, headed by Inspector Domitilo Cordova; and the criminology directorship, headed by Inspector Ramon Martiz. [Summary] [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 6 Jan 84 pp 1, 12 PA]

DEFENSE FORCES COMMAND CHANGE -- Major Luis Antonio Cordoba Morales has replaced Colonel Lorenzo Purcell as chief of the Defense Forces' Fifth Military Zone. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Jan 84 p 8 A PA]

NEWS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR -- Luis Estribi, well-known journalist and radio commentator, has been appointed director of Radio Exitosa's "Giant Newscast" [Noticiero Gigante], effective 1 January 1984. The newscast is on the air from 0500 to 0900. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 Jan 84 p A-5 PA]

COSTA RICA

EDITORIAL SEES NEW 'BAY OF PIGS' ON BORDER

PA162150 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Jan 84 p 11

[By Hugo Spadafora]

[Excerpts] The proverbial political nearsightedness that prevents U.S. Government leaders from understanding Latin American problems has been contributing to fomenting a second "Bay of Pigs" on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border for the past 3 years. Today, due to historical blindness, President Reagan's policy is making room for the emergency -- in slow motion -- of a second "Bay of Pigs," this time on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

Politically speaking, what we see in Honduras today is the threat of an invasion by Somozist-Honduran forces with U.S. support. This is so independently of whether their political ideals are truly Somozist, whether or not the Honduran troops will participate, or whether or not the military forces trying to overthrow the nine totalitarian "commanders" are made up primarily of former national guards. Therefore, the nine Nicaraguans have their best strategic ally in the Reagan administration's misguided policy. This hinders the achievement of the only valid alternative in Nicaragua: the Sandinist revolution's return to democracy through a movement arising from the people's ranks, especially from the Indians. This alternative does not envisage real or alleged border struggles, nor alleged invasions that can be used by the nine communist dictators for propaganda purposes.

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA REPORTS RECENT ANTIGUERRILLA ACTIONS

PA171505 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Jan 84

[News bulletin issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date and place not given]

[Text] Four more terrorists have turned themselves in to the authorities in San Vicente. The four extremists and their families, including seven minors, presented themselves at the National Police headquarters in San Vicente. They said they were kidnapped 3 years ago from their homes in (Moncholo) village, San Vicente Department.

Meanwhile, a combined Army patrol dispersed a column of terrorists moving near the (Pollaca) farm in Zacatecoluca, forcing them to leave the area after suffering numerous casualties. In addition to these actions, troops of the Atonal Battalion clashed with extremists yesterday at the turnoff leading to San Francisco Javier, Usulutan Department. The terrorists had to flee, taking their casualties with them. The Armed Forces reported the death of three of its soldiers.

In another action, the Armed Forces made FMLN terrorists flee in disarray. The terrorists had occupied positions yesterday near Palo Negro canton, Coatepeque Jurisdiction, and El Tinteral, El Congo Jurisdiction, Santa Ana Department, on the highway linking this department with San Salvador. The immediate action of troops from the 2d Infantry Brigade made the extremists -- who had been holding up passing drivers and passengers -- flee to an unknown destination without offering any resistance.

MOTHERS CONCERNED OVER YOUTH RECRUITMENT

PA171748 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Jan 84 pp 10, 58

[Text] There is general concern over youth recruitment by members of the Civil Defense in San Salvador as well as in the interior of the country.

It was first learned that subversive groups were rounding up youngsters in various departments, inviting them to join the subversive groups. This was protested by numerous mothers, who were left without their beloved sons. However, according to reports from San Salvador, today the situation has grown even more alarming, since such youths -- students and workers -- are being taken to garrisons to don military uniforms.

Many mothers have approached journalists to complain that members of the Civil Defense ignore the student identification papers of their sons. Those affected by this recruitment procedure claim this measure should be applied to youths who are of no help to their families, youths who are considered a social problem. However, in the case of youngsters who work to contribute to their family's income, or students who will someday help their parents, this measure contradicts the military regulations that grant exceptions in these cases.

Some of the affected mothers believe the Defense Ministry should provide an explanation, clarifying whether we have reached the point when all youths are to be recruited.

ARCHBISHOP ON 1983 VIOLENCE STATISTICS

PA170443 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Excerpt] San Salvador Archbishop Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas today said at the cathedral that the number of civilian victims of violence rose to 5,142 last year, according to the archbishopric's legal office in this capital.

During 1983, some 938 persons were arrested for political reasons, and approximately the same number sought the amnesty offered by the government. Some 43 kidnappings were perpetrated by the guerrilla groups, and 67 persons were tried and murdered. The army's casualties totaled 1,430; there is no exact information on guerrillas who died in combat, the archbishop said.

1984 has begun with many questions and much anguish at the national and international level; however, it is also rich in hopes and possibilities, the Salvadoran prelate said.

In addition to these deplorable figures, other events generate concern: the contrived slowness of trials for political prisoners; the drama of the missing persons and suffering of their relatives; the kidnapped people being held by guerrilla groups; and officers being held prisoner and their relatives' deep concern and hopes for their release.

The archbishop said that the defense minister's public statement will instill confidence in the citizens because it establishes norms to be followed by police agents and military members during an arrest. There will be no more arrests by personnel in civilian clothes; they will always identify themselves as government officials, the religious leader added.

Rivera y Damas said that he has not read the Kissinger report, thus he cannot comment concerning El Salvador. He also said that the peace and democratization process must allow for the people's right to dissent, pluralism, and political viewpoints.

FARABUNDO MARTI REPORTS HONDURAN AIR FORCE RAID

PA180230 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Here are some pages Reagan decided to leave out of his report on human rights in El Salvador. It is a report from our correspondent in the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front, involving a denouncement of new crimes against our people by the Air Force. The air force blithely participating in the killing of our people is the Honduran Air Force. Here is the report. Go ahead, correspondent.

[Begin relay] This is the Radio Farabundo Marti correspondent reporting from the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front: Violating our airspace, a Honduran plane has bombed the civilian population in San Miguel Department.

On Tuesday at 1700, an A-37 plane from Honduran territory indiscriminately bombed [name indistinct] canton and [name indistinct] village, Jurisdiction of San Gerardo, in northern San Miguel Department. After this action, the A-37 plane returned to Honduran airspace, from which it had raided our territory.

As a result of this action, which violated our national sovereignty, several homes of the defenseless civilian population were destroyed. One boy was killed. He was torn to pieces by a 250-pound bomb. Eight other people, including women and elderly persons, were seriously wounded. The Salvadoran people repudiate this criminal aggressive action by Suazo Cordova's and General Alvarez Martinez' puppet government.

We urge international humanitarian organizations to investigate and condemn this violation of our national security and sovereignty. All our people must [word indistinct] and condemn this aggressive action. All our people must confront the imperialist intervention [word indistinct].

This was a report for Radio Farabundo Marti from correspondent Andres Pena. [end relay]

FARABUNDO MARTI INTERVIEWS FAL COMMANDER

PA172201 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Salvadoran people, at this very moment we are establishing direct contact with Companero Rosendo Lobo, who is at the command post of our revolutionary battalions. He is with Companero Commander Octavio Martinez, the political and military chief of the Ramon Aguinada Carranza Battalion of the Armed Forces of Liberation, FAL, and a member of the Communist Party of El Salvador's [PCES] Political Commission. Companero Lobo, if you are ready, the microphones are open, so you may initiate the interview with Companero Commander Martinez. Go on, companero!

[Begin relay] [Lobo] Thank you companeros of Radio Farabundo Marti; good evening Salvadoran people. This is Radio Farabundo Marti's combat transmissions team, which is accompanying our people's army in this victory drive. It is now 1946, and we are at the guerrilla camp of the strategic command which carried out the victorious military maneuver yesterday here in Chalatenango Department.

Companeros, Salvadoran peoples, our station's transmission team will interview Commander Martinez on the fighting waged yesterday here in Chalatenango. Go on, transmissions team. [end relay]

[Announcer] Thank you, Companero Lobo. Commander Martinez, receive a fraternal and revolutionary greeting from our Radio Farabundo Marti. Today, 16 January, we have the chance for direct contact, and we will ask about the military maneuver our battalions successfully carried out yesterday in Chalatenango. Commander Martinez, the first question is: What is the importance of the maneuver carried out yesterday against the positions held by Military Detachment No 1 in Chalatenango, a victory that must be added to the war of attrition that our FMLN has been waging against the enemy Army the last month, ever since we attacked and seized the strategic Cerro Cacahuatique in Morazan Department; attacked, annihilated, and wiped out the 4th Brigade; and blew up the strategic Cuscatlan Bridge? Within this victorious framework, what is the importance of the maneuver carried out yesterday, 15 January, in Chalatenango? Over.

[Begin relay] Martinez] The most important aspect of these clashes is that they prove to the world that the strategic military balance has definitely been disrupted. This balance had been maintained for a very long time. At this point, we feel this balance has been disrupted for a number of reasons. This clearly suggests that there might be a military victory. Also, a phase of strategic victories has begun for us, considering that from the moment of the great victory scored by the companeros in the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front in Cerro Cacahuatique to the present, strategic victories have continued to be scored, like that on the Central Front, when the enemy was defeated in the 4th Brigade here in Chalatenango.

Another important aspect of these victories is the fact that our armed peoples are already becoming a revolutionary army and are increasingly dominating in the techniques of regular combat, which they are simultaneously combining with those of irregular combat. They are demonstrating to the world their ability to maneuver in large-scale clashes with the attack on the enemy's major positions, the fighting in the large cities, and our people's increasing capacity to fight a well-trained and well-supplied enemy. All this also points to the great capacity of our commanders at the various levels, which is leading to the defeat of large units of the enemy Army, as was the case today in Chalatenango and previously on 30 December 1983, at the enemy's 4th Infantry Brigade. [end relay]

[Announcer] Very well, Commander Martinez. The Rafael Aguinada Carranza Battalion of the PCES' FAL, and a group from the Commander Felipe Pena Mendoza Vanguard Units Battalions, which belong to the Peoples Liberation Armed Forces of the FPL [People's Liberation Forces] Farabundo Marti, participated in yesterday's successful military maneuver in Chalatenango. Commander Martinez, what can you tell us about this advance in coordinating our forces?

[Begin relay] [Martinez] Our recent great advances in unity are more marked every day at the various levels. Politically, our parties are better coordinating their actions to solve the various problems affecting the revolutionary movement. Militarily, we find the same situation -- a disappearance of our respective revolutionary organizations and a loss of the revolutionary organizations' individual styles. The possibility of gradually organizing a single revolutionary army and a single revolutionary party is growing stronger every day. This is why we view with great satisfaction the coordination among the various organizations, because in this manner we show not only other organizations but the entire world our increasing capacity to jointly resolve our problems. [end relay]

[Announcer] Thank you, Companero Commander Martinez. The micrphones of Radio Farabundo Marti are open if you wish to add anything. Our people and our combatants are listening. Over.

[Begin relay] [Martinez] I would like to greet the Salvadoran people in view of the prospect of scoring other great victories. Moreover, I would like to make a formal commitment to the rest of the organizations to increase our capacity and our disposition to maintain the unity of the five detachments that comprise the FMLN. Through this great unity and coordination, we will gradually construct what we mentioned a while ago: a single party, a single revolutionary organization, and a single revolutionary army that will undoubtedly score great victories against our common enemy and against the large-scale maneuvers of U.S. imperialism. [end relay]

FARABUNDO MARTI ON U.S. PLANS, FMLN RESISTANCE

PA171813 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government is preparing to step up its intervention against our Central America. Initial reaction to the commission headed by warmongering Henry Kissinger demonstrates that the Reagan administration has not and will not achieve domestic consensus on his demented policy for El Salvador and Central America. These genocidal warmongers want to conceal their flagrant violation of our peoples' human rights under the timid mantle of so-called defense and construction of democracy and freedom.

In the name of democracy and freedom in El Salvador and Central America, they are providing even larger numbers of weapons to the puppet regime. These weapons are also used by the death squads. Now they have requested over $400 million for the puppet Salvadoran Government. However, the attack on and annihiliation of the 4th Infantry Brigade Garrison in El Paraiso, the destruction of the Cuscatlan Bridge, and our recent penetration into the departmental capital of Chalatenango should indicate to these warmongers that it is useless, that even millions of dollars will be useless in stopping a people who are determined to achieve their real and definitive freedom.

VENCEREMOS ON SCAPEGOATS FOR U.S. MILITARY AID

PA172143 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] There are unpardonable mistakes; there are definitely unpardonable mistakes that the homeland simply cannot tolerate. We, the Salvadorans, can understand General Garcia believing that with a gigantic operation involving 5,000 or 7,000 soldiers he could hit the FMLN. He made his mistake and was replaced. We can also understand Vides Casanova believing that with small, simultaneous operations he could hit us. He also made a mistake. We can even understand Monterrosa, that poor, stupid man, leaving his rearguard unprotected. Anyone can make a mistake. However, we feel that arresting and charging innocent Captain Avila is inexcusable. Hey, that tops it all.

We understand the fact that Magana is somewhat nervous. Catching four or five death squad criminals in our country is harder than protecting the Cuscatlan Bridge. We won't deny that some little details confused things and caused them to mistakenly imprison the poor, innocent Captain Avila.

That Captain Avila was found with Robertito D'Aubuisson, carrying an attache case that held the well-detailed plan to assassinate Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, could confuse anyone. Next comes a slanderer charging Captain Avila with a terrorist attack in Costa Rica when he was the military attache in that neighboring country, and even if Avila had left quite quickly, this was a big mistake. And so on.

The fact that Captain Avila is D'Aubuisson's and ARENA's [Nationalist Republican Alliance] (?instrument) -- and we already know how they feel and what they do about the agrarian reform -- does not mean that he is responsible for the deaths of the U.S. technicians and the ISTA [Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation] president.

It cannot be gringos needing their scapegoats to cover and support their increased intervention in our country that causes such big mistakes. It is true that the right-wing knows how to put any magistrate, president, or ambassador who becomes a nuisance by accusing D'Aubuisson's boys in their place. Of all of these mistakes, the most pitiable is that of good old Ronald Reagan: to become involved in other people's affairs in this country of mistakes.

Reagan is not asking for much. He wants to be given five, or at least four, scapegoats in order to send more military aid, more airplanes, and bombs. Look, Ronald Reagan told them, military aid only depends on your giving me four or five scapegoats, and this is only a small sacrifice that I ask of you. However, the assassins in El Salvador are so smart they do not want to give up even five scapegoats.

VENCEREMOS: CENTRAL FRONT CONTROLS HIGHWAY

PA170445 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The Modesto Ramirez Central Front reports that on Sunday, 15 January, our forces took control of the new highway at (La Manteca) turnoff. This took place from 1000 to 1600. At 1500 a 1-hour skirmish began against 50 soldiers sent to the area. The enemy suffered three dead and an undetermined number of wounded. Our fighters withdrew without any problems.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA REAFFIRMS DE FACTO GOVERNMENT POWERS

PA171756 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 4

[Text] Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores said yesterday that the de facto government will continue to hold executive and legislative powers, because the constituent assembly's sole mission is to draft the constitution and other related laws. He said that the assembly to be elected this year will not have the authority to appoint an interim president.

The chief executive made a statement to newsmen at the Congress Building shortly before meeting with politicians to discuss the new draft electoral law.

Newsmen asked Mejia if the constituent assembly will be able to confirm him as head of state or as interim president. He answered: "I would not accept that, because the sole task of the deputies to be elected will be to draft the constitution."

I was not born yesterday, he said. I have been around for some time, and I am familiar with the Guatemalan situation. I have reviewed all its constitutions, and none of them has made provisions for the election of an interim president. If the assembly does make provisions for such an election, it would be abusing its authority. I would not allow them to elect me, because if the deputies abused their authority, it would be necessary to straighten them out. The people will elect them to carry out a specific task, and we will continue to fulfill our executive and legislative duties.

The deputies to be elected soon will remain in their posts until they finish drafting the constitution and related laws. They will draft a general electoral law, and when general elections have taken place, the legislative branch will be normalized, and everything will be fine -- and democratic.

The de facto government, Mejia added, will continue holding executive and legislative powers. The constituent assembly will be working on its mission; otherwise, what would it be for? The elections will be to choose people who will draft a constitution, not to draft unrelated laws. Each person with a specific mission must fulfill it. Finally, Gen Mejia said the deputies will draft the laws as soon as possible. They will also set the dates for general elections.

ORPA ATTACKS 5 POLICE GARRISONS; 9 WOUNDED

PA171737 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1715 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Leftist guerrillas simultaneously attacked five police garrisons in this capital with grenades and automatic weapons fire, police officials stated today. Nine policemen were wounded in the attacks staged last night, they added.

In calls to local media, the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms [ORPA], one of the principal Guatemalan guerrilla groups, claimed to have staged the attacks to protest recent actions by the government's security forces. The police said attackers hurled grenades and fired with automatic weapons on the garrisons from moving vehicles at approximately 2000 yesterday.

Last week the Guatemalan Army killed three members of a leftist guerrilla group in an operation that involved artillery fire and helicopters a short distance from the presidential palace.

BRIEFS

POLITICAL PARTY HEADQUARTERS -- The Democratic Civic Front [Frente Civico Democratico] yesterday opened its party headquarters. During the opening ceremony, the party announced its principles and the goals. (Danilo Padilla) is the party's secretary general. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 7 Jan 84 PA]

HONDURAS

AMBASSADOR ADDRESSES OAS COUNCIL SESSION

PA180249 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Speech by Honduran Ambassador Roberto Martinez Ordonez at the special session of the OAS Permanent Council held in Washington on 16 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Mr Chairman, gentlemen representatives:

The Honduran Government wishes to express to you, Mr Chairman, its recognition for the prompt acceptance of its request to hold a special session of the OAS Permanent Council. The purpose of our request was to outline once more the serious threats to the region's peace and security posed by the continuous and repeated acts of violation of our territory, to the detriment of our citizens, the latest examples of which are the death of a Honduran peasant on 7 January due to the explosion of a mine placed by Nicaragua's Sandinist People's Army inside Honduran territory and the armed attack perpetrated by elements of the same Army on 11 January, again violating Honduran territory, on an aircraft flying over our territory.

I must state the Honduran Government's deep concern over the extreme seriousness of Nicaragua's latest acts of aggression and the fact that the armed attack referred to is one in a series of actions reflecting the implementation of a policy of confrontation and harassment by the Sandinist government.

Since July, when I submitted to the Permanent Council a broad and documented explanation of the threats to Central American peace and security posed by Nicaragua's alarming arms buildup and acts of aggression against Honduras, Sandinist People's Army forces and elements subordinated to the authorities of the Republic of Nicaragua have been carrying out acts of varying seriousness that represent attacks against the physical integrity and properties of either Honduran and foreign citizens or persons transiting Honduras. All such acts represent violations of our sovereignty and territorial integrity and were duly reported to the council and the OAS member countries.

Among all of these acts in violation of international laws, I must refer to one that took place on Wednesday, 11 January, involving a new armed attack. At approximately 0800, a helicopter that had strayed from its course due to strong winds was hit by rifle fire from Nicaraguan territory. It was an unarmed aircraft belonging to the U.S. Army, type OH-58, on a flight between the Honduran Departments of Valle and Olancho. It was carrying Warrant Officer Jeffrey Schwab and two engineers, all U.S. citizens. The hostile fire by the members of the Nicaraguan Sandinist People's Army forced the pilot to make an emergency landing on the road linking Cifuentes and Las Trojes, El Paraiso Department, in Honduran territory.

Already on land and outside the helicopter, the pilot and the two passengers sought refuge as they continued to be attacked with heavy fire by the Sandinist Army. One of the bullets mortally wounded Jeffrey Schwab. The two passengers managed to escape with assistance from Honduran soldiers, who came to their rescue.

The Honduran Government reports to the American governments the serious attacks perpetrated by the Nicaraguan Government on the population, integrity, and sovereignty of Honduras, which enjanger the region's peace and security, and asks this Permanent Council to take note of this denouncement. It urges the Nicaraguan Government to forsake its warmongering behavior and return to a faithful observance of the principles of peace, security, cooperation, and respect for the human rights that inspire the inter-American juridical system.

Thank you very much, Mr Chairman.

ALVAREZ MARTINEZ COMMENTS ON ROLE OF FUSEP

PA170433 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Division General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, said yesterday that Honduras is experiencing very difficult times. He made the statement at the conclusion of the ceremonies to commemorate the 102d anniversary of the Public Security Force, FUSEP.

Alvarez Martinez reviewed important aspects of the present situation and called on police officers to be responsible and professional in their defense of the Honduran people's interests.

"Now more than ever, the people need the support of a security force that is responsible, honest, brave, and well-trained in the latest police techniques," Alvarez Martinez said. He added that in the present situation we must remain alert, work courageously, and be willing to make sacrifices to defend Honduras' most sacred sovereign rights.

The Armed Forces chief also said that this attitude should prevail especially in units like the FUSEP, so that Honduras' honor will never be sullied, its independence as a sovereign state will be safeguarded, and members of our Christian faith will never suffer persecution.

Alvarez Martinez said FUSEP must be ready to face the present situation and emphasized that FUSEP units must make an effort to fulfill their duties and obligations as honorably as possible. In the same context, Alvarez Martinez stressed the importance of the police focusing their efforts on safeguarding civil liberties, peace, and collective order, and/or strengthening the institutions of a free and democratic government.

NICARAGUAN EXILES REPORT ON REBEL TRAINING

PA171714 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jan 84 p 16

[Excerpts] La Ceiba -- Leaders of the Union Committee of Nicaraguan Workers and Peasants in Exile (CSOCANE), headquartered in Costa Rica, have charged that there are Honduran rebel training camps in Honduras.

Julio Morales, Miguel Escudero, and Carlos Chamorro made this charge in the presence of Francisco Guerrero Nunez and Mariano de Jesus Gonzalez, leaders of the Trade Union Federation of National Honduran Workers (FESITRANH) and the Confederation of Honduran Workers (CTH).

The leaders of the CSOCANE said that more than 100 Hondurans are involved in insurgency movements in Honduras. However, they said that they, being foreigners and unable to participate in Honduran politics, cannot provide the names of the Honduran rebels.

The Nicaraguans bitterly criticized the regime of the nine Sandinist commanders, whom they accused of imposing repressive laws that are against liberty, for the purpose of consolidating themselves in power through the use of the Armed Forces and the enforced silence of the people.

Morales, Escudero, and Chamorro urged workers and peasants to give moral support to the struggle against the Marxists who are in power in Nicaragua.

NICARAGUA

DEFENSE REPORT; HUMBERTO ORTEGA NEWS CONFERENCE

PA172252 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1930 GMT 17 Jan 84

[News conference by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega at the Carlos Aguero Military School at 1800 GMT on 17 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] This is Communique No 27 of the Directorate of Public and Foreign Relations of the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry, issued on 17 January 1984:

The Defense Ministry reports:

1. On 11 January, the day on which a U.S. Armed Forces helicopter violated our airspace in the border area north of Jalapa, Nueva Segovia Department, a Nicaraguan Defense Ministry commission was appointed to investigate this serious incident.

2. The results of the investigation by this military commission are as follows:

A. On 11 January 1984, between 0730 and 0743, a military helicopter (?without) visible markings violated our airspace, entering through the border area of Cerro Nubarrones, 12 km west of Jalapa, at an average speed of some 250 km per hour and a height of 200-300 meters, on the following course: Cerro Nubarrones, 12 km west of the town of Jalapa; El Escambray of Santa Fe, 4 km west of Jalapa; (Elmanli), 2 km northwest of Jalapa; La Limonera, military [word indistinct], 3 km northwest of Jalapa; Teotecacinte, 5 km northwest of Jalapa; El Guineo, 18 km northwest of Jalapa; El Palmar, 18 km northwest of Jalapa; and (Licosum), 17 km north of Jalapa.

B. The regular military and militia units located at various points of the intruding aircraft's course fired with their regulation infantry weapons at the helicopter, which, obviously violating our territory, carried out various evasive maneuvers when it was discovered.

C. The intruding helicopter, upon flying over the town of Teotecacinte and under fire from our infantry at all times, rapidly lost altitude and headed toward Palmar and Murucuchi. At an altitude of some 50 meters, it flew close to the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] troops at Cerro Murucuchi, avoided crashing against trees on that hill by a few meters, and made a forced landing in Honduran territory a scant 200 meters from the border.

D. The EPS troops at Cerro Murucuchi and (Gualsate Abajo), who frequently exchange fire with counterrevolutionary and Honduran forces who harass our border posts from Honduras, fired with rifles at the intruding helicopter as it flew over our positions at a low altitude in an apparent defensive maneuver. Our troops stopped firing a few minutes after the forced landing by the intruding helicopter in Honduran territory.

E. Since it did not have access to the intruding helicopter and its crew, the commission was unable to determine the cause of the craft's [word indistinct], which could be, among others, fatal wounds suffered by the pilot while violating our airspace, damage caused (?by our people) to the craft, or mechanical failures of the craft. Nor could it determine the time of the pilot's death during this action in violation of our national territory.

F. From sources of the U.S. Government itself, it has been learned that the intruding craft was a U.S. Army OH-58 helicopter manned by a crew of U.S. Army engineers. From other sources we have learned that the surnames of the members of the intruding helicopter's crew were Martin and Green and that the pilot was Jeffry Schwab.

G. The investigating commission was able to determine that the intruding helicopter was a special reconnaissance and mining exploration craft and that it can even be armed with depth charges and mines as well as a variety of machine guns and rockets [words indistinct] and photographic equipment.

H. Everything indicates that the intruding aircraft, considering the type of helicopter involved and the specialties of the crew, wanted to explore our border military operation in support of the counterrevolutionary activities carried out from Honduras in that area. The commission also ascertained that, in order to support the counterrevolutionary plan in the Jalapa area, counterrevolutionary and Honduran forces have managed to deactivate some minefields at our border in that area to facilitate counterrevolutionary incursions from Honduras. This activity requires both aerial and ground reconnaissance, which explains the recent constant aerial (?violations) in that area and the high degree of specialization in (?reconnaissance) techniques of the military engineers who manned the intruding OH-58 Yankee helicopter.

3. The investigating military commission concludes by stating that the incident involving the U.S. OH-58 helicoper confirms reports furnished by our intelligence organizations regarding the continuous air espionage that the U.S. Army carries out throughout the country on our troop movements. It also makes evident the larger and more direct involvement of U.S. Army units in provocation and support plans in line with the warmongering policy of aggression that our country endures from the most reactionary circles of the Reagan administration. [end of Defense Ministry communique]

This is why in the past few weeks there has been a noticeable increase in the participation of the Honduran Army and the U.S. Army in the cowardly violations of our territory and airspace; the largest military superpower in the world against a small country like ours. This fact cannot go ignored.

We know of a new plan, which they call the Sierra Plan, [words indistinct] as a spearhead with the several thousand counterrevolutionaries who are still in Honduras. They are renewing their efforts to unite, train, and guarantee a greater military leadership for the forces they still have who are trying to liberate a portion of our territory and to create a serious situation so they may intervene against our country.

In that sense -- and I am speaking of the counterrevolutionary organization FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] -- and in view of its need to carry out large-scale operations in our territory to gain a zone that would be declared a free zone where they would install a temporary government to achieve international recognition and request aid from the Honduran and U.S. Armies, they drafted the so-called Sierra Plan. This plan consists of sending between 3,000 and 4,000 men into the areas of Ciudad Sandino and [name indistinct]. The plan also includes occupying the towns of Santa Clara and San Fernando as a means of controlling the Ocotal-Jalapa Road and beginning the occupation of Jalapa with attacks from the outskirts of the city.

The Sierra Plan also includes the use of Honduran troops who will wear the same uniform as the counterrevolutionaries and who will attack the border town of Teotecacinte.

The operations theater of this plan, which has been in preparation since late 1983, is precisely where the North American helicopter -- the innocent North American helicopter that was swayed by the winds, according to the spokesmen for the North American administration -- was flying. If the Somozist counterrevolution has been a [word indistinct] in the drafting of the so-called Sierra Plan, then they will logically require greater direct aid from the U.S. to implement their plans. This is why these soldiers -- as described in the wires filed [words indistinct] warmongering interests -- called engineers were in the area. However, they failed to mention that they are sappers, that is engineers specializing in destruction -- military units specializing in destroying objectives. They specialize in destroying military or economic objectives. These were not innocent men traveling in a helicopter as the United States has claimed. They were sappers.

The first phase of the Sierra Plan -- they operate in phases -- includes attacking the towns near Jalapa in an attempt to later occupy Jalapa. The same would happen with Ciudad Sandino, Murra, the Ocotal-Jalapa Road, San Fernando, Santa Clara, and so forth. They also have an alternate plan -- still part of the Sierra Plan -- which consists of isolating an area known as Punta Cosiguina. In the past few weeks the area has experienced aggressive attacks. Punta Cosiguina is the area our companero is pointing at on the map. It is in the Gulf of Fonseca area. Isolating the area would be done with massive (?bombings) by the enemy air force and the use of Piranha speedboats. They would attack from the coast of [words indistinct]. They would land forces with the objective of strengthening their position and advancing toward Chinandega Department. We have already denounced the bombing of the Potosi area on three occasions. The plan contemplates the infiltration of commandos to sabotage economic and military targets, such as placing mines in some sectors of Potosi. The Potosi area has already experienced three bombing attacks, and we have had to evacuate the residents of the area.

It is also noteworthy that [words indistinct] the U.S. helicopter took off from some point in this area. They said that the helicopter had taken off from San Lorenzo. This is interesting, bucause most of the commando activities using speedboats begin in the Honduran sector of the Gulf of Fonseca. These activities were against our coast, and at times they entered the area by land [words indistinct] have tried to violate the airspace [words indistinct]. It is interesting to note that the speciality of the soldiers who were traveling in the helicopter is compatible with the activities recently begun by the counterrevolutionary forces. They are deactivating minefields -- they are specialists in this type of activity. Also interesting is the thought of where the U.S. Embassy in Honduras got its information [words indistinct] operating with the counterrevolution.

Among other activities in 1983, the U.S. and Honduran Armies carried out more than 5 military exercises and 10 military maneuvers. These military exercises and maneuvers were aimed at developing the combat capacity of the Honduran Armed Forces in an alleged enemy area, which could be Nicaragua. The exercise was planned by the U.S. general staff to strengthen the Honduran military capacity against Nicaraguan objectives.

They are now planning the "Big Pine III" maneuvers. These will be planned and coordinated by the North Americans, and the Honduran Armed Forces will be participating. It is not certain yet, but it is said that the Salvadoran and Guatemalan Armies will also participate.

The area for these maneuvers will no longer be the Atlantic -- as was the case with the "Big Pine II" maneuvers -- but the Pacific area of Nicaragua. This is very important, Excuse me, I meant the Pacific area of Central America. This is very important because now we will have several thousand U.S. soldiers and Honduran, Salvadoran, and Gutatemalan troops performing maneuvers for a practically indefinite period -- they have not set a termination date -- and this directly and seriously threatens the strategic position of our country. If the military maneuvers on the Atlantic Coast were considered serious, then the U.S. exercises, the maneuvers on the Pacific Coast, are much more serious. This represents a permanent danger to Central America. This represents permanent conflicts in the Gulf of Fonseca and on our northern borders. On the other hand, this manuever is aimed at threatening El Salvador with a possible intervention. "Big Pine III" seeks to dangerously intervene in the region.

It is noteworthy that in 1983 at least five military airports were built or expanded [in Honduras] and the North Americans set up hospitals in (Palmerola) and Olancho. They have trained [words indistinct]. They set up a radar base on El Tigre Island in Amapala, Valle Department, and they installed a sophisticated satellite communications system that operates in (Palmerola), headquarters for the task forces [words indistinct] responsible for directing the "Big Pine" maneuvers.

Therefore, we want to denounce this military situation we are experiencing, which only proves that, despite the efforts of our revolution and government through the Contadora Group, the United States is rapidly and openly marching toward becoming an interventionist in a military conflict against Nicaragua and the Central American region. It was only recently learned that General Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, had said that there is a possibility of joint U.S.-Honduran military bases being established in Honduras. This would endanger the efforts being made by the Contadora Group. It would open the way for others to aspire to establish joint military bases of various kinds.

Are there any questions?

[LA PRENSA reporter -- name indistinct] [Words indistinct] report on the helicopter; however, you have mentioned U.S. participation in maneuvers, aggressions, the Sierra Plan, "Big Pine III" [words indistinct] direct military intervention in Nicaragua?

[Ortega] We are not talking of a war situation. We are talking about activities of the U.S. in 1983. The outlook for this year is a warmongering one. We believe that if the U.S. policy does not change and contribute, as most governments are doing, to Contadora, an increasingly militaristic situation will develop. This could even end in a direct U.S. intervention, which could begin in El Salvador or as a simultaneous intervention of El Salvador and Nicaragua. In addition to the efforts of the Contadora Group, we have decided to carry out, as in the past, the tasks of defense. These will continue until we have assurances from the U.S. that this is not necessary.

[AFP reporter -- name indistinct] What role would Eden Pastora's group play in this plan?

[Ortega] Eden Pastora's forces are not as consistent as the northern forces. He has less [word indistinct] capacity, and, from the political-military viewpoint, his forces appear more dispersed and [word indistinct]. Nevertheless, he is part of this escalation, of these U. . aggressive actions from Honduras and Costa Rica.

[Luis Cabrera, Voz de Nicaragua reporter] You have mentioned a new campaign [word indistinct], Sierra Plan, and "Big Pine" maneuvers. If this escalation increases, what will happen with the elections announced for 1985?

[Ortega] Thus far, there is the will to continue with the political, economic, social, and electoral policies. This is not an election year. It will be mainly a year of defense. The most important tasks will be preparing for the defense: civil defense, militia, reserves, regular units, making sure that rifles are kept clean and oiled and that tanks and anti-aircraft defense equipment are kept oiled because if the U S. policy continues as is, we could be facing the North Americans. We are not going to be caught off guard as were the Grenadians. In order not to be caught off guard, we must prepare.

Aside from the defense tasks we must continue with our political tasks, and these include electoral tasks. If the military situation should become grave, then we will suspend those tasks. However, at this moment our decision is to continue toward that process.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] The U.S. troops are mainly interested in directing and advising the Somozist counterrevolutionaries' directorate. Lately the directorate has been facing internal crises. Last year's directors have been replaced; they have even killed themselves. Some counterrevolutionary groups are going through a phase in which they need the presence of the U.S. soldiers because of the blows received from our forces and because they cannot implement some of their plans. These plans require the presence of the North Americans to help out in their military actions. [Words indistinct] They are also undergoing differences. Therefore, the Honduran Army agrees with what General Alvarez is doing and with the way he is involving the [words indistinct]

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] It is clear that most of the time Pastora, Arguello, and all the rest are in San Jose. They visit Limon and other cities.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] As far as we know, they are operating from Costa Rican territory. Now they are trying to dominate [words indistinct]. They have managed to introduce troops, 50 to 100 men, into the country. We have hit them, captured prisoners, and wounded and killed some. They have had to withdraw into Costa Rica. The truth is that they are operating [30-second break in transmission] in speedboats from Costa Rican territory. They come in from the sea, up the [name indistinct] River, to Punta Gorda. They have tried to occupy several towns, mostly villages, of the area. We have clashed with them, inflicted some casualties -- we have also suffered some casualties there -- and then they are forced to withdraw into Costa Rica. That is what is happening there. They won't accept this truth. [Sentence indistinct]. They don't have the courage, dignity, or shame to tell the United States the truth of what is happening. They are not revolutionaries, but we are. We are not afraid to tell the truth.

[Ortega] [Question indistinct] We have learned about different statements from different members of the U.S. Administration who have advocated all the brilliant ideas of wise man Kissinger about the possibility or danger of a communist takeover in El Salvador. [Words indistinct] relations that is practically unavoidable and the guerrilla groups continue to deal more blows to the government. Therefore, the U.S. Government, the savior of democracy, will have no choice but to defend democracy and human rights. This is what the U.S. Government asserts, because it wants to make the world believe that there is no alternative but to intervene in El Salvador.

I personally consider the situation in El Salvador very grave, but not for the guerrilla groups. It is grave for the people, for the government and for the Armed Forces of the country. The latter are being forced to assume some kind of defensive position, like the one assumed by Somoza practically after [words indistinct]

In this sense, the revolutionary groups in El Salvador are seeking a political solution to the problems in this region, but they will not surrender under any circumstances. It would be illogical to consider easing the pressure when you are dominating the adversary. After all, they have a right to their own decisions. This is my personal opinion. The Salvadoran guerrilla groups will do what they consider necessary, not what we think they should do. However, if you think like a guerrilla member [words indistinct] situation which is quickly deteriorating.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] [Words indistinct] The only ones involved in the maneuvers are the Hondurans and the North Americans. That is what is happening. Now we wish to say that the only pact we have is one among ourselves, with our blood, our martyrs, and our lives. In other words, if there is a Yankee intervention here, even if there were a pact, even a fly would have trouble passing through to Nicaragua, because the first thing the North Americans would do would be to establish a tremendous maritime and air blockade so nothing could get through.

Therefore, we are not preparing for anyone to come here and defend us, but fundamentally to defend ourselves. We are not depending on pacts. They sign pacts and organize CONDECA's [Central American Defense Council] and "Big Pine" [maneuvers] and other things. Thus far we have not carried out any exercises. However, things continue in this way, we will hold some in the future. (?Our directorate may do this.)

We are not preparing ourselves ideologically, philosophically, or spiritually for people to come to help us. Nobody will ever help us here. On the contrary, we Nicaraguans have sacrificed ourselves in other places [words indistinct].

Thus, I want to tell you categorically that no pact is required and that [words indistinct]. We only need to prepare ourselves more and more every day, along with our people, and to entrust our military defense to the revolution.

AMBASSADOR ON LAND, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS BY U.S.

PA171444 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Washington -- The incursion of a U.S. military helicopter into Nicaraguan territory cannot be considered an isolated incident, but was one of many provocations against Nicaragua.

The above statement was made before the OAS Permanent Council by Nicaraguan Ambassador Edgar Parrales, who charged that in 1983 there were 620 violations of Nicaraguan airspace, an increase of over 275 incidents compared to the previous year. Parrales added that of that number over 200 were carried out by U.S. Air Force radio-electronic reconnaissance planes. He noted that over 400 incursions came from Honduran territory. Parrales revealed that also in 1983 there were 160 naval incursions into Nicaraguan jurisdictional waters, as well as 90 incursions by counterrevolutionary forces through its mainland borders, 79 from Honduras and the rest from Costa Rica.

12 JAN INCURSION BY HONDURAN ARMY ALLEGED

PA171512 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] On 12 January a Honduran Army patrol entered Nicaraguan territory in an area known as El Aguacate, 10 km north of El Espino, where they exploded 10 mines but caused no damage. On that day at 1200 an unidentified camouflaged helicopter from Honduran territory violated Nicaragua's airspace in the area known as the Santa Emilia Stream, 18 km north of El Espino. The helicopter returned to its place of origin at approximately 1300.

In presenting a formal and energetic protest against these acts of aggression that flagrantly violate Nicaragua's sovereignty, the Nicaraguan Government once again insisted that it is necessary for the Honduran Government to act in line with the principles of international law and with the efforts being made by the Contadora Group to find a just and negotiated solution to the grave Central American crisis.

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS CLASHES IN NORTH

PA150308 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] Managua -- The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry today reported that fierce clashes have been waged in the last few days in the northern part of the country. Sixteen anti-Sandinist rebels and one soldier have been killed, and 12 Nicaraguan soldiers wounded.

Meanwhile, clandestine Radio 15 September has announced that a new offensive has been launched in Nueva Segovia and Jinotega, with 1,500 well-armed men ready to die and expel [passage indistinct]. Ten rebels were killed in an attack in Boboque, 30 km northwest of Rio Blanco and 175 km north of Managua, according to Sandinist authorities. Two soldiers were wounded in another clash on 10 January in Valle Paredes a few kilometers from Murra in the department of Nueva Segovia.

Six Contras Killed

PA152048 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Troops of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and counterrevolutionaries clashed in three locations in northern Nicaragua on 12 and 13 January. Defense Ministry sources reported that a clash occurred on 12 January in Boboque, 30 km north of Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department. Six counterrevolutionaries were killed. That same day, there was a clash in Valle Paredes, 3.5 km northeast of Murra, Nueva Segovia Department. Two EPS companeros were wounded. The same sources reported that at 0700 on 13 January, there was a clash in Arenales, 21 km northeast of Wiwili, Nueva Segovia Department. An EPS companero was killed and 10 were wounded in the action.

VOICE OF SANDINO CARRIES ARDE WAR BULLETINS

12 EPS Casualties

PA141650 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 150 released by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command "in the mountains of Nicaragua" on 12 January]

[Text] Challenging the so-called revolutionary vigilance and the vigilance of "ears" operating in Nicaraguan neighborhoods and communities, ARDE members organized in internal resistance have decided to attack the repressive forces of the current totalitarian military puppet dictatorship.

At the beginning of 1984, and on the anniversary of the martyr to public liberties, ARDE's internal resistance planned and executed the "Pedro Joaquin Chamorro" operation. At 1745 on 10 January, at Quebrada de Agua, 1 km northwest of San Juan de Limay in Esteli Department, two squads of the Commander Sebastian Muller Column headed by Giovanni Gaguar ambushed an EPS [Sandinist People's Army] patrol, resulting in four dead and eight wounded. One of the bodies appeared to be that of a foreigner. This provides evidence of the foreign intervention that our country is again experiencing.

Following the operation, and in accordance with a well-organized internal resistance, our combatants again returned to routine civilian life.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Torsuani River Attacks

PA141816 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 151 released by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command "in the mountains of Nicaragua" on 13 January]

[Text] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's democratic peoples that:

At 1000 on 9 January 1984, at the mouth of Torsuani River in the Bay of Bluefields, located 10 km from the city of Bluefields, the Adolfo Garcia Column, headed by Companero Chimirringo, attacked and destroyed a boat carrying 29 EPS [Sandinist People's Army] members. All the occupants were killed, and the river current swept away their bodies and weapons.

Upstream on the river at 1700, this same column surprised a launch carrying 15 Sandinist soldiers, killing 3. The others fled. We suffered no losses.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

BRIEFS

COMMUNICATIONS BRIGADE RETURNS -- The Camilo Ortega Saavedra Brigade was welcomed yesterday by its Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, TELCOR, companeros after successfully establishing communications from Rio San Juan to El Ostional and El Naranjo, in Rivas Department. In addition to fulfilling its objective in a record time of 32 days, the brigade, comprised of technicians, engineers, and office workers, also participated in defense tasks. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jan 84 PA]

COMMENTATORS CRITICIZE REAGAN DISARMAMENT SPEECH

FL172101 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Jan 84

[International commentary by television commentator Ismael (Cantao) and Javier Rodriguez of the PRENSA LATINA staff, during the "Revista de la Manana" program -- live]

[Text] [(Cantao)] You already know that U.S. President Ronald Reagan gave a speech yesterday. Javier, this speech, which was given right on the eve of the Stockholm conference, is attracting attention. One could wonder about the fact that, in this speech, there are no descriptive anti-Soviet adjectives or expressions such as "Russia, the kingdom of evil," a preconceived stereotyped phrase used in speeches written for the U.S. President.

During the next 10 minutes we would like to talk with our colleague from PRENSA LATINA, Javier Rodriguez, about the content and circumstances of this speech, given right on the eve of... [changes thought] Javier, isn't it today that the Stockholm conference is being held in which 35 countries will participate, those which signed the 1975 Helsinki Agreement? What was the reason for this speech, which media and political analysts view as "moderate" in quotes, although it emphasizes militarism and the strengthening of the arms race? Is it worthwhile to ask about this right now, given the existing international situation?

[Rodriguez] It seems evident that there are two basic reasons why Reagan is trying at the present time to use a different tone in his public statements. The first is the conference that, as you mentioned starts today in Stockholm, and [the second is] the fact that it was given the night before the meeting that Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Secretary of State George Shultz were to hold in that capital. The speech was transmitted especially for Europe; and Reagan wants to obtain more solid support from his European allies for the position that the United States will take at the conference. In addition, he wants to present himself as a proponent of peace at the very moment that peace is most threatened worldwide by precisely the U.S. attitude. This is one side of the question.

The other side is the fact that all observers agree that the speech was purely electoral and was directed at U.S. public opinion. The speech was also given almost on the eve of President Ronald Reagan's announcement that he will run for a second term as U.S. president in the elections that will be held this year. In this way he is trying to influence the U.S. electorate by presenting himself as a champion of peace after having been a champion of war for such a long time. I think Reagan is trying to disguise himself in a lambskin, but the wolf's claws are clearly sticking out from under this costume.

His own argument condemns him when he presents as a guarantee of peace an increase in U.S. military power. This is one of the points in his speech, and I think it is worth emphasizing. He wishes to appear as favoring peace, but only from a position of strength, only from a position of reinforced U.S. military might, a position of military supremacy that he is trying to achieve over the USSR. He also speaks of avoiding war and reducing arms precisely in a speech in which he proclaims the need for military supremacy over the USSR, according to him, to guarantee peace. He is pretending that the United States wants arms reductions and a lessening of tensions.

These are contradictions, contradictory positions in Reagan's speech which demonstrate, in short, that the common denominator of the speech is insincerity.

[(Cantao)] Javier, there is something else that attracts our attention. According to the reports that we have read from different international news agencies, it appears that there are certain differences at the heart of NATO. It appears that there is something that worries Washington as much as the pacifist movement that is inundating all Europe and gaining more and more strength in the United States itself. These differences appearing at the heart of NATO, related for example to the Washington policy in East-West relations... [changes thought]

There is an unconvincing phrase. You know perfectly well that the conflict between East and West is really a myth, that there is something far above this expression. These are elements to bear in mind. You have spoken of the wolf's claws and this Reagan speech that the press describes as "moderate," in quotes, mention is made of speaking from a position of strength, using the language of war, of strengthening the arms race. I have researched the matter and found that the United States, with military forces of more than 2,000,000 men... [changes thought] I have looked in the archives and found that the U.S. Armed Forces have 2,119,596 men, and this figure is dated 31 May 1983. Of this figure, approximately 43 percent are abroad semipermanently, or are carrying out military operations, or are engaged in military maneuvers. These facts obscure all the claims made in the U.S. President's speech, don't you agree?

[Rodriguez] Of course. There is another interesting detail. I was trying to analyze the daily news according to which President Reagan proclaims, with this so-called new terminology, his desire for peace, negotiations, and rapprochement with the USSR precisely at a time in which military growth in the United States is at the maximum level. For example, I have heard some reports from U.S.-originated international news. These reports reveal that U.S. forces are participating in attacks on Lebanese patriots, intervening indirectly in Lebanon. Reagan himself has asked for a four-fold increase in military aid to El Salvador. The deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe is continuing despite numerous worldwide protests.

This is one of the points that logically inspires the greatest distrust of Mr Reagan's goals. Henry Kissinger ratified the fact that the military option had to be considered in relation to Nicaragua and in relation to Central America. At the same time that the U.S. President spoke of his alleged desire for peace and negotiations, independent of the long history of aggressions he has unleashed while in power, and independent of the political and military actions he has carried out in different parts of the world, the United States generated all these new reports that spoke of war and said not a word of peace.

[(Cantao)] There are other elements, too. I have heard that the Soviet press has responded to this speech, and pointed out something that I consider very important. For example, the international press has described this speech as an attempt by the Reagan administration to change its image. But in the last few hours, before we came to the studio, we saw that the Soviet press is emphasizing that this speech is an attempt to divert attention away from the basic problem, because it is trying to give the impression that the United States is interested in conversing with the USSR while the USSR remains intransigent. This is another point that has attracted our attention.

Now then, as regards the U.S. position, parallel to the speech in which there are references to conversations and dialogue, emphasis is placed on strengthening the arms buildup.

We remember that U.S. military blackmail forms part of the history of the United States, its foreign relations. In the postwar period, after World War II, on more than 200 occasions the United States used its Armed Forces to support its foreign policy; furthermore, on 33 occasions it used nuclear military blackmail, atomic blackmail. This has been going on, you will recall, since August 1945 when it dropped the bomb over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. So it isn't new, as part of the Soviet press recalls very well.

[Rodriguez] Indeed, but that isn't the worst, (Cantao). The worst is that the policy has not changed. It has not only been a constant of U.S. foreign policy -- this aggressive line, this attempt to achieve military supremacy and to keep the world under its control -- it has not changed at all. It has intensified since the Reagan administration took power.

It is of interest to point out that part of the U.S. press states that one of the objectives of Reagan's speech is to calm down the domestic fear that exists in the country. The American people are alarmed by the political and warmongering changes that Reagan has imposed while in power. In this speech, Reagan sought to calm domestic fears, favor his election plans -- as I have already said -- and provide a different image, or attempt to create a different image, with respect to relations with the USSR.

What the U.S. President is forgetting is that what is needed at this time of high world tension is not exactly a speech but actions. And this is what the United States is not providing -- actions that guarantee there is a desire and a path toward peace and that eliminate tensions. For example, one good step would be to stop the deployment of nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which everyone has described as a most dangerous step toward war.

So long as this is not done, so long as a vocation and a desire for understanding and a desire to fight for peace are not truly manifested, all these speeches will be hollow rhetoric.

[(Cantao)] In relation to this matter, with respect to the fear of the U.S. society itself, the justification of the arms race... [changes thought] You will recall that the Pentagon has published dozens of pamphlets on this. I remember the book "Soviet Military Power," which was used as a bible in the campaign of distortion against USSR foreign policy and military might. This concept added to the so-called Soviet threat, the so-called windows of vulnerability they have used to justify the arms race, and the windows of ulnerability concept are being used in Western Europe especially to provide justification for the deployment of the 572 intermediate-range missiles.

[Rodriguez] It is a war philosophy.

[(Cantao)] Beyond any doubt. I do not know whether there are any more comments. Fine. I appreciate your company this morning and the attention that all of you have given to us.

BULGARIAN DELEGATION SIGNS AGREEMENTS, LEAVES

FL172310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Ognyan Doynov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee, and the delegation he heads left Cuba last night. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Pedro Miret, members of the party's Politburo, as well as Humberto Perez Gonzalez, alternate member of the Politburo, and Jaime Crombet, member of the party Secretariat, bade them farewell.

Stanishev Bonev, alternate member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo, and other officials of the Bulgarian delegation held meetings with Commander Fidel Castro and other party and state leaders.

During their stay, Doynov and his delegation visited important economic centers, especially those in the industrial sectors in the Provinces of Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Holguin, Matanzas, and City of Havana.

Moments before leaving, Stanishev Bonev and Humberto Perez, presidents of the JUCEPLAN [Central Planning Board] of their respective nations, signed long-term economic agreements between Cuba and Bulgaria for the 1986-1990 5-year period.

DPRK ATTACHE COMMENTS ON TRIPARTITE TALKS

FL170240 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The commercial attache of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Cuba, (Yi Se-yong), today held a press conference on his government's official proposals to hold tripartite talks among the U.S. Government, the South Korean authorities, and Democratic Korea.

He said his government had not yet officially received a negative response from Washington or Seoul on the holding of such talks, which would bring about a favorable opening to peace and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The North Korean diplomat added that in recent years the U.S. intention of perpetuating its military occupation of South Korea has become more evident. He charged that the "Team Spirit" joint maneuvers this year will be much greater in scope than in other years.

He also warned that if war starts in Korea, it will turn into a nuclear war. He declared that the blame will mainly lie with the United States for keeping the Korean situation tense, bordering on war.

MEXICAN MAYOR VISITS, MEETS HAVANA COUNTERPART

FL180100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Rafael Ruiz Berjar, engineer and mayor of Morelia, capital of Michoacan State in Mexico, and his wife have been received by Oscar Fernandez Mell, member of the party's Central Committee and president of the City of Havana's Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, in his offices.

During their conversation, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, both leaders summarized the characteristics of their respective capital cities, local government methods, and transportation performance and characteristics.

During his stay in our country, Ruiz Berjar will visit the Alamar housing project, various agricultural areas in Havana, Lenin Park, the Museum of the Revolution, and other socioeconomic centers.

AUSTRALIAN SOLIDARITY GROUP ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL161946 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The first contingent of the Australian Brigade has arrived in our country to lend its solidary support in agricultural and construction projects. This is the first group of the Australian-Cuba Friendship Association to visit our country. It is made up of 66 Australians who want to learn about the work of the revolution.

The group comprises men and women of all ages and professions. Most of the members belong to one of the nine committees of the Australia-Cuba Friendship Association located in several cities of that country. During their stay in Cuba, they will also visit locations of economic and social interest. They will hold meetings with representatives of national CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], UNEAC [National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists], Casa de las Americas, and ICAP [Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples]. They will also visit the Isle of Youth Special Municipality and the heroic city of Santiago de Cuba.

MPSP HAILS REVOLUTIONARY VICTORY IN BENIN

FL162034 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1909 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has hailed the eighth anniversary of the revolutionary victory in Benin on 16 January 1976, when the mercenary aggression was courageously repelled.

On that date, Benin's revolutionary forces heroically defended their positions and forced the invaders to flee hurriedly, abandoning arms and ammunition. The shady plans of imperialism and its reactionary allies failed in the face of the determination of that small and heroic African nation, which has known colonialism's aggressiveness, oppression, and looting of its territory.

On this anniversary of victory in Benin, we greet you, wishing you successes in the efforts you are making to achieve the people's well-being, the document states.

SIXTO BATISTA ATTENDS FAR PROPAGANDA SEMINAR

FL172330 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The FAR's National Seminar on Propaganda, Agitation, and Mass Cultural Work for the 1984 instruction year is taking place at this armed institution's central club.

A number of ideas directed at raising the level of ideological, political, and educational work with FAR personnel are being examined at the meeting. The participants in the seminar are reviewing accomplishments and exchanging work experiences within their units with the objective of deepening and enriching ideological efforts in response to the appeal of the 8th Central Committee Plenum in this regard.

Division General Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the FAR's Central Political Directorate, was present at the opening session of the seminar.

CHILEAN ALLIANCE TO HOLD DEMONSTRATIONS IN MARCH

PA160253 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] The center-right Chilean Democratic Alliance has decided to hold a series of antigovernment public demonstrations in March. It also denied the possibility of resuming a dialogue with the Chilean military regime.

Mario Sharpe, president of the opposition coalition, announced that 13 mass demonstrations will be held simultaneously in different parts of the country to submit to the people an economic and political plan for a transition government.

REPORTAGE ON CONTINUING INDUSTRIAL UNREST

Alibux Death Rumors Denied

FL171330 Hilversum International Service in English 0730 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Suriname television, responding to rumors, has stated in a broadcast that outgoing Premier Errol Alibux is neither wounded nor dead.

According to insiders, the rumors sprang from a fist-pounding discussion between military leaders, Mr Alibux, and several fellow members of his left-wing nationalist PALU [Progresstive Workers and Farmers Party] party. The debate apparently was a quarrel between members of the military regime and former civilian Premier Alibux about who bears the blame for the current crisis in Suriname.

Meanwhile, social unrest in the former Dutch colony is on the increase. The strikers in the bauxite industry are receiving greater popular support. On Monday, hardly any buses were running in the capital of Suriname because private bus companies responsible for 90 percent of the transport system have suspended services. Some schools sent students home.

Bauxite Strike Continues

FL171242 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] In the South American nation of Suriname, bus drivers say they plan to return to work today after a 1-day strike, but there is no sign to an end to the standoff between striking bauxite workers and the country's military government. Drivers of privately owned buses were the latest group to walk off their jobs in a wave of strikes against higher taxes and against the military government led by Desi Bouterse.

The work stoppage left many residents of Paramaribo stranded yesterday. The bus drivers' strike followed a 2-day sympathy strike by bank employees to support the bauxite workers. Utility workers also walked off their jobs January 6th, and although the electricity is on again, there are intermittent blackouts in parts of Paramaribo every day.

The strike in Suriname's crucial bauxite industry means a daily loss to the government of foreign currency earnings and of $143,000 in levies paid by the industry when it is operating.

CANA Quotes SNA on Situation

FL171745 Bridgetown CANA in English 1700 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 17 (CANA) -- Industrial unrest aimed at forcing Suriname's military rulers out of power eased today.

The official Suriname News Agency reported that privately-owned buses, which were off the streets yesterday stranding thousands of commuters, were running again today. It said that the banks which were hit by strikes were all back in full operation today with the exception of the Dutch Abn-Bank, which is being manned by management staff and offering a withdrawal and deposit service only.

"Over the past 21 hours there has been a marked improvement in the industrial climate which has been plaguing the country for the past month," SNA said. It made no mention of the bauxite/alumina industry, where the unrest started last December 19 over tax increases, which were later withdrawn. The American-owned Suriname Aluminium Company (Suralco) last week closed its plant here indefinitely.

The agency said reports indicated that the private busmen, who provide about 90 per cent of Suriname's public transport, had taken their action in support of a request for a five-cent rise in fares. It quoted the secretary of the Bus Owner's Union, identified as Mr Vriesde, as telling the National Information Service (NIS) that his union was not informed of the bus strike. He termed the action as "senseless". He said that the question of increased fares could only be raised with a new government.

Bouterse secured the resignation of the regime of Errol Alibux last week.